EXPRESS MAIL NO. EV336594145US Sheet 1 of 1 FORM PTO-144 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE ATTY, DOCKET NO. APPLICATION NO. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE (REV.7-80) 890050.447 10/702,136 APPLICANTS Naoki Hanashima et al. SCLOSURE STATEMENT eral sheets if necessary) GROUP ART UNIT FILING DATE November 5, 2003 2874 **U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS** *EXAMINER INITIAL **FILING DATE** DOCUMENT NUMBER DATE NAME **CLASS SUBCLASS** IF APPROPRIATE AA ΑB АC AD ΑE AF **FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS** DOCUMENT TRANSLATION DATE COUNTRY NUMBER YES 10-068910 03/10/98 JP (+ Abstract in English) JMB. 10-339848 12/22/98 JP (+ Abstract in English) JMB 11-119158 04/30/99 JP (+ Abstract in English) JMB OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) Bakke, T. et al., "Vertically Tapered Core Polymeric Optical Spot-Size Transformer," JMB Electronics Letters 37(24):1475-1476, November 2001. Bakke, T. et al., "Polymeric Buried Core Adiabatic Optical Spot-Size Transformer," JMB Electronics Letters 38(7):319-321, March 2002. Mizuno, T. et al., "Low-Loss 1.5%-Delta Arrayed Waveguide Grating with Narrow Laterally Tapered Spotsize Converter," Electronics Letters 37(24):1452-1454, November AME Mitomi, O. et al., "Design of a Single-Mode Tapered Waveguide for Low-Loss Chip-to-JMB Fiber Coupling," IEEE Journal of Quantum Electronics 30(8):1787-1793, August 1994. Shani, Y. et al., "Efficient Coupling of a Semiconductor Laser to an Optical Fiber by Means JMB of a Tapered Waveguide on Silicon," Appl. Phys. Lett. 55(23):2389-2391, December 1989. Spühler, M. et al., "A Very Short Planar Silica Spot-Size Converter Using a Nonperiodic

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* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not criteria is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant(s).

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